



Armathwaite School
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Headteacher: Mrs Helen Hepworth

4--6-19

Dear Parents,

Welcome back. We hope you all enjoyed the break and have had a good rest. We have a very busy action-packed half term ahead!

SATs have now been completed by children in Years 2 and 6.

Next week is the Year 1 Phonic Screen Check.

Year Reception profile assessments will be completed this term.

Year 6 swimming proficiency will be assessed for the National Curriculum swimming award which is the standard all children are expected to achieve by the end of primary school.

All data will be submitted to the Department for Education.

Reports for Years Reception, 4 and 5 will be written and sent home before the end of term. Results of the phonic screen and Year 2 and 6 SATs will also be sent home.

And now for all the fun adventures!

Rights of the Child Event

First, we would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who came along to support our UNICEF Rights of the Child event. The children worked so hard and with great independence on their presentations. They selected the rights they were interested in, carried out their own research, prepared their own presentations and activities and didn't they do an amazing job of presenting! We were so proud of them. Staff were there to support but the children were in charge. Our school vision is all about supporting our children to become confident, independent learners and active citizens with strong communication skills.

Thank you so much to our amazing PTFA committee who laid on refreshments and to everyone on the PTFA (all parents, carers and grandparents automatically become members as soon as their child comes to our school) for the delicious cakes you contributed. PTFA are looking for new committee members so please let us know if you would like to join the friendly team. All parents, grandparents and carers are most welcome. The work is shared and very do-able and it makes an incredible difference to our school because it provides social events where families can get together and it raises crucial funds for school, supporting school visits and the purchase of resources. Could you support the committee next year, please?

Dates for the Diary

On Friday June 14th we are having a UNICEF Playground Challenge. This supports Article 31 ~ Every child has the right to play. Like last year, we will create our own obstacle course full of fun challenges. But this year we are going large, using the school field as well as outdoor play and the hall climbing apparatus. Children will be able to complete the courses in their buddy groups. As well as being a fun challenge we

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aim to raise some money to support children who don't have the opportunity to play. Every pound we raise will be matched by the UK government, doubling the difference we can make to children's lives. We have talked together in assembly and decided to set ourselves a target of £375 which would build a whole community playground in Zambia, so that 100 children can play. £172 can provide a pre-school-in-a-box, full of toys, games and books to help children to learn through play. Also on June 14th, we will have our Rights Respecting School Gold award visit. More information to follow.

Lacrosse

Our brilliant lacrosse team is thrilled to have qualified for the North of England Championships for the fourth year running! The team will travel to Kendal Rugby Club on June 11th, leaving school mid-morning, taking a packed lunch. We may be late back to school. If so, we will let you know by phone.

Whole School Summer Adventure Visit

On Monday June 17th we are all going on an adventure to Grasmere and Rydal Water. There are great paths around the lakes and an amazing cave above Rydal Water. All staff will accompany the children on this visit. The only cost will be for a bus. As this is an outdoor and adventurous activity we will be able to subsidise this visit using our PE and School Sports premium. Also, our PTFA is supporting the transport costs. This means we only need to ask for a voluntary contribution of £5 per child. Please complete the slip below and return the money to school by June 12th.

Residential Visit

Our Year 4, 5 and 6 residential visit to Whithaugh in Kielder Forest is from June 19th to 21st. Mrs Gill, Mrs Dowes and I will accompany the children on this visit. Mrs A, Mrs Glover, Mrs Wylie and Miss Holmes will remain in school to work with the children in Years Reception, 1, 2 and 3. Just a reminder, that Mrs Gill and I will be holding a meeting to answer any questions about the visit at 3pm this Thursday. A final visit letter will be sent home next week.

Life Education Bus

The Life Education bus will visit school on Thursday, June 13th.

Children will visit the bus in their class groups ~ Year 1, Years 2,3,4 and Years 5 and 6 for age-appropriate lessons about healthy eating and well-being. This includes ways in which they can keep themselves safe from harm. Children really enjoy visiting the bus where lessons are delivered by a qualified teacher. As this experience provides opportunities to learn about physical health, healthy eating and mental health and well-being we are able use our PE and School Sports premium to cover the costs. The bus will be open before the start of the school day (from 8.30am to 9.15am) for parents to go in and have a look around.

Philosophy 4 Children Gold Renewal

We would like to invite parents to a P4C enquiry with our children from 9am – 10am on Wednesday, 12th June. You can come along as an observer or as a participant ~ or both! Please do try to come along. We think that you will find it so interesting and be really impressed by our amazing children. Tea and coffee will be available from 8.45am.

Transition Camp

Children in Year 6 will take part in an overnight transition camp from 27th - 28th June with other Year 6 children from our partner schools in our cluster. These are Lazonby, Plumpton, Kirkoswald and Calthwaite. This provides an opportunity for our children to meet and make friends with children they

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will be going to secondary school with. Children will set up tents then take a walk together, followed by a swim in the pool and a barbecue. We then have time to play and chat around a campfire before sleeping in our tents on Lazonby school field. The next morning we will have breakfast and team building games and fun challenges. What a great opportunity for our brilliant Year 6s. Our children will be accompanied by Mrs Gill, with support from Miss Holmes and me.

Swimming

Our two weeks of swimming lessons at Lazonby Pool begin on Monday July 1st. We will travel by train, taking a picnic lunch which we will eat together before lessons begin at lunchtime. We will catch the train back to Armathwaite which arrives back at 15.34pm. There will be more information to follow. PTFA will pay for Claire, our brilliant swimming teacher, and school will pay for the hire of the pool. We ask parents for a voluntary contribution to cover the cost of the train travel. This cost will be £1.45 per day (£14.50 for the fortnight). Children will have 10 swimming lessons. They will be put into groups according to swimming skill rather than age. I will be in the water with children for the first few lessons. In order to meet our adult:pupil ratios for off-site visits we also rely on parent\grandparent\carer volunteers each day. If you can help us on one or more days please let Mrs Dowes or me know. Swimming is such a great experience for everyone involved. We take our book bags with us so we can read and do other outdoor learning while we are there. We also have a fabulous time in the brilliant community play area next to the pool. Not only do our children develop swimming skills, they also grow in confidence and independence and gain a real sense of well-being.

Summer Play ~ We will try to fit in a summer play this year. If we can, it will be on Friday July 12th at 6.30pm with a morning performance at 9.30am prompt.

Patterdale Cross Country

Our older children will once again participate in the cross country running event at Patterdale School this year, on Monday July 15th.

Sports Day

We are hoping to hold a fun sports day on Tuesday 16th July. This is to be confirmed.

Netball World Championships

On Wednesday July 17th Years 4, 5 and 6 will travel to Liverpool for the netball world championships. They will also visit the Slavery Museum and the Tate Gallery.

Leavers Assembly is on Thursday July 18th.

Disabled Basketball

On the last day of term we have a disabled basketball athlete visiting school to work with all children.

BUSY! BUSY! BUSY! FUN! FUN! FUN!

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